HELP REDUCE THE RISK OF 7 TYPES OF FORKLIFT INCIDENTS

Forklift operations may carry a risk of incidents which can result in injury or costly damage to equipment, infrastructure, and goods if not conducted properly.

Here are seven types of forklift incidents and some of the steps you can take to reduce risk.

2. FALLING LOADS



- Adapt your warehouse for forklift traffic
- Provide wide, well-marked traffic lanes for forklifts
- Avoid sharp turns
- Install safety rails if necessary
 Implement visual warnings
 (e.g. fluorescent vests, Pedestrian Awareness Lights on a forklift)

4. TIPPING OVER



- Adapt the layout of your warehouse
- Ensure wide and safe traffic lanes
- Avoid sharp bends and steep slopes, and travel slowly when turning
- Introduce speed limits (a forklift speed limiter can help enforce this)
- Ensure that operators of sit-down forklifts are properly trained on and effectively utilise seat belts
- Consider operator assistance systems that help reduce the risk of tipovers

6. PHYSICAL INJURIES



- Provide enough free space around the lifting equipment to stop pedestrians getting too close
- Keep arms and legs inside the forklift cab during operation
- Always exit the forklift backwards (facing the cab)
- Only move one hand or foot at a time

1. COLLISIONS



- Arrange your warehouse space thoughtfully
- Separate vehicles and pedestrians where possible
- Invest in collision protection,
 e.g. barriers, such as safety rails and bollards, at strategic locations
- Provide spacious parking areas with clear markings

3. FALL FROM A HEIGHT



- People must never be raised using a forklift
- Ensure ladders, scaffolding, or aerial work platforms are available and being properly utilised

5. FORWARD TILT



- Adhere to the forklift's maximum load
- Stack loads correctly, with the weight evenly distributed
- Never start moving a load with the forks raised

7. TECHNICAL MALFUNCTION



- Regularly maintain your forklift
- Carry out pre-use checks in line with local regulations
- Conduct regular audits

